

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 00092 220826Z

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ACTION SS-20

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SY-10 DRC-01

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FM USINT DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0093

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 0092

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (HENRY A. KISSINGER) OCON

SUBJECT: SECVISIT - SECRETARY'S INTERPRETER

1. DURING DISCUSSIONS WITH SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY
OFFICIAL MISBAH DALATI ON FEBRUARY 21 RE SECRETARY'S
VISIT, MATTER OF INTERPRETER ALSO CAME UP. I NOTED
THAT SECRETARY HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO UTILIZE HIS OWN
INTERPRETER DURING HIS LAST TWO VISITS. DALATI
REPLIED THAT, NONETHELESS, THE SECRETARY SHOULD
BRING HIS OWN INTERPRETER TO HAVE ON STANDBY BASIS.

2. IN LIGHT OF DALATI'S STATEMENT, AND SUBJECT, OF
COURSE, TO SECRETARY'S WISHES, WOULD RECOMMEND THAT
QUALIFIED INTERPRETER BE ASSIGNED TO DAMASCUS ON TDY.
IN ADDITION, WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE AS TO WHETHER
I SHOULD IN A LOW KEY AND DISCREET MANNER PRESS FOR
THE PARTICIPATION OF THE SECRETARY'S INTERPRETER
DURING THE SECRETARY'S TETE-A-TETES WITH THE
PRESIDENT ALONGSIDE THE LATTER'S INTERPRETER.
I DO NOT THINK THAT THE SYRIANS WOULD REACT NEGA-
TIVELY TO SUCH PARTICIPATION BUT THIS DEPENDS ON
HOW STRONGLY THE SECRETARY FEELS ABOUT IT.
SCOTES

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